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Message Text

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12
ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 AID-20 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 IGA-02 TRSE-00 OMB-01 EB-11

COME-00 AGR-20 SWF-02 DRC-01 SAM-01 /190 W
---------- 046809
P R 051415Z JUN 74
FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7143
INFO AMEMBASSY CONAKRY
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY ROME
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMEMBASSY BANJUL UNN

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EO 11652: NA
TAGS: PFOR, GA
SUBJ: VISIT WITH PRESIDENT JAWARA OF THE GAMBIA

1. SUMMARY: JAWARA APPRECIATES USG RESPONSES TO THE GAMBIA'S DROUGHT RELIEF NEEDS, ACKNOWLEDGES PROBLEM OF STEAMROLLER TACTICS USED BY LDC'S IN SPECIAL UNGA; REGRETS SENGHOR'S CANCELLATION OF BANJUL VISIT; IS HOPEFUL FOR PROGRESS IN PORTUGUESE-AFRICAN RELATIONS; AND CONSIDERS US-GOG RELATIONS CURRENTLY VERY GOOD. END SUMMARY.

2. AS SCHEDULED ON JUNE 4, PRESIDENT JAWARA RECEIVED ME ALONE AT GOVT HOUSE FOR HALF-HOUR TOUR D'HORIZON. HE WAS IN RELAXED, ALMOST JOVIAL MOOD. AFTER OPENING COURTESIES, I BEGAN BY ASSURING JAWARA USG CAREFULLY CONSIDERING THE GAMBIA'S URGENT NEEDS AS RESULT SAHELIAN DROUGHT. AS ONE RESPONSE, 900 MT OF THE 2,000 MT OR SORGHUM
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WE ARE PROVIDING THROUGH WFP HAVE ALREADY ARRIVED IN

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BANJUL. BALANCE OF 1,100 EXPECTED IN DAKAR INCESSANTLY
(DUE JUNE 6 ABOARD DEMEBOLA) AND WILL BE TRANSSHIPPED
SHORTLY. AS SECOND RESPONSE, WE HOPE SOON TO HAVE APPROVAL FOR
PROPOSED RR PROGRAM. DETAILS WOULD BE PRESENTED TO
GOTG AND SPECIAL AID OFFICER ODELL DUE SHORTLY IN
BANJUL TO JOIN CHARGE IN DISCUSSING MATTER WITH GOTG.
JAWARA DELIGHTED BY THIS NEWS AND THANKS USG ON BEHALF
OF PEOPLE OF THE GAMBIA FOR ITS ASSISTANCE. HE FEARED
WFP HAD NOT FULLY APPRECIATED THE GAMBIA'S REAL AND
URGENT FOOD NEEDS. GAMBIANS NOT IN HABIT OF EXAGGERATING
THEIR REQUIREMENTS. HE HOPED US UNDERSTOOD THIS AND
WOULD HELP PERSUADE OTHER DONORS. I REPLIED THAT DAKAR
FFP OFFICER HAD SURVEYED SITUATION IN MARCH AND SHARED
HIS FINDINGS WITH OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES. TURNING TO
THIRD ASPECT OF OUR ASSISTANCE, I TOLD PRESIDENT JAWARA
THAT PC DIRECTOR AUSTIN BROWN WOULD LEAVE THE GAMBIA
WITHIN FEW DAYS AS HE HAD REACHED STATUTORY LIMITATION
OF PC ASSIGNMENT. HOWEVER, TDY ACTING DIRECTOR
WOULD BE IN PLACE SHORTLY UNTIL BROWN REPLACEMENT ARRIVES.
WE CONSIDER PC PROGRAM VITAL ELEMENT OUR BILATERAL
RELATIONS AND IT COULD HAVE SIGNIFICANT, NEW ROLE IN R&R
PROGRAM, IF APPROVED.

4. OUR NEXT SUBJECT WAS SPECIAL UNGA. DRAWING FROM
STATE 104050, I DETAILED USG POSITION WITH REGARD TO
INDICATIONS LDC TACTICS MIGHT OVERRIDE CONCERNS OF US
AND OTHER MINORITY MEMBERS WHOSE RESOURCES AND CO-
OPERATION MOST ESSENTIAL FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF US RESOLU-
TIONS. JAWARA SAID HE UNDERSTOOD PROBLEM. FRANKLY,
HE WAS DISAPPOINTED BY SPECIAL SESSION AND FELT LDC
MAJORITY MADE BIG MISTAKE IN USING STEAMROLLER TACTICS.
HE ATTRIBUTED THIS IN PART TO TANTALIZATIONS OF PRC AND
USSR WHO, HE SAID, FLATTERED LDC'S WITH PROMISES HE WAS
CERTAIN THEY WOULD NEVER FULFILL. US PROPOSAL, WHICH HE
FELT WAS NEVER REALLY HEARD, HAD MANY ATTRACTIVE ASPECTS,
AND HE HOPED PROPOSAL WOULD NOT BE ABANDONED. HE URGED
THAT USG NOT LOSE PATIENCE BECAUSE ISSUE OF TOO GREAT
WORLD IMPORTANCE FOR EITHER DEVELOPED NATIONS OR LDC'S
TO BE DISCOURAGED AFTER FIRST ROUND.

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5. I NOTED IMPORTANCE OF EXCHANGE AND NEGOTIATION IN
CURRENT INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, CITING RECENT GOLAN
HEIGHTS AGREEMENT BETWEEN ISRAEL AND SYRIA AS EVIDENCE.
I ASKED JAWARA WHETHER HE OPTIMISTIC WITH REGARD TO
POSSIBILITIES FOR PEACEFUL SOLUTIONS PORTUGUESE COLONIAL
PROBLEMS, NOW THAT NEW LISBON GOVT IN PLACE.
JAWARA REPLIED THAT WITH SOME LUCK AFRICA MAY SOON SEE
SOME REAL PROGRESS ON THAT ISSUE. HE CERTAINLY HOPED SO,

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SINCE COLONIAL WARS WERE HEAVY DRAIN ON POOR COUNTRIES' RESOURCES.

6. NOTING THAT OUR LAST APPOINTMENT HAD BEEN POSTPONED FOLLOWING CANCELLATION OF PRESIDENT SENGHOR'S SCHEDULED MAY VISIT TO BANJUL, I SAID I HOPED I MIGHT SEE PRESIDENT AGAIN IN JULY WHEN OUR NATIONAL DAY CEREMONIES WOULD BRING ME BACK TO BANJUL ON THE 8TH. HE SAID HE HOPED TO BE BACK FROM MOGADISCIO AND LONDON AT THAT TIME. HE REGRETTED SENGHOR'S LAST MINUTE CANCELLATION AND WONDERED WHETHER SENEGALESE SECURITY CONCERNS, AS RESULT OF RECENT RELEASE IN DAKAR OF EX-PRIMIER MAMADOU DIA AND ASSOCIATES, ON ONE HAND, AND FEAR GUINEA INFLUENCE IN BANJUL, ON THE OTHER, WERE REAL REASONS FOR CANCEL-LATION. IN ANY EVENT, HE NOTED, SENEGALESE PRESIDENT DID NOT CANCEL VISIT TO FRANCE AND ASIA, WHICH BEGAN WEEK AFTER ABORTED GAMBIAN TRIP. SLOWLY GAMBIAN PEOPLE WERE GETTING OVER THEIR DISAPPOINTMENT, BUT ADJUSTMENT WAS NOT EASY. I EXPRESSED HOPE PROBLEM WOULD NOT BE SERIOUS IMPEDIMENT TO SENEGAMBIAN COOPERATION. JAWARA SMILED AND SAID IT WOULD NOT, BUT NOTED SENEAGALESE HAD NOT INDICATED WHEN SENGHOR'S VISIT MIGHT BE RESCHEDULED, WHICH I INTERPRETED AS INDICATION MATTER HAD NOT BEEN TAKEN LIGHTLY. COMMENTING ON PRESENCE OF MADAME SEKOU TOURE IN BANJUL, I ASKED WHETHER GUINEAN FIRST LADY'S SOJOURN WAS GOING WELL. PRESIDENT SMILED AND REPLIED: "YES, SHE IS ENJOYING VISIT VERY MUCH".

7 FINALLY , I ASKED PRESIDENT FOR OVERALL ESTIMATE OF STATE OF US/GOTG RELATIONS. HE DESCRIBED IT AS VERY GOOD, SAID CHARGE MCFARLAND MAINTAINED EFFECTIVE RELATIONSHIPS WITH HIS GOVT, AND THERE WERE NO PROBLEMS BETWEEN TWO NATIONS. HE RECOGNIZED
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THAT GOTG SHOULD MAKE EFFORT TO STRENGTHEN RELATION-SHIP BY OPENINGMISSION PRESENTLY ACCREDITED TO WASHINGTON AND UN, BUT BUDGET REVIEW INDICATED THIS PROBABLY NOT POSSIBLE BEFORE FY 76.
AGGREY

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